

**The Honorable Steve Scalise**  
**Prepared Remarks: H.R. 2465, Steve Gleason Enduring Voices Act**  
**October 4, 2017**

Thank you Mr. Chairman. I'm glad to be here today to support the Steve Gleason Enduring Voices Act and appreciate the Chairman for moving this important bill forward.

I'd like to also applaud our Conference Chair McMorris Rodgers for her leadership on this bill, which ensures individuals with diseases like ALS and Parkinson's have access to the speech-generating devices they need to live their lives to the fullest.

Steve Gleason's heroic story has inspired people in Louisiana and all across the country. Two years ago Congress came together and sent a bill in his name to the President's desk. Unfortunately, that Act is set to expire which is why we are back today to consider this critical piece of legislation which will permanently require Medicare coverage of the types of speech-generating devices that can literally give patients their voice back.

Steve Gleason's courage, perseverance, and commitment to improving people's lives is truly remarkable. His motto is "No White Flags" and that means that you never give up, and no matter what life's limitations might be, you should never let it hold you back from achieving your full potential.

I am proud to help champion his efforts on behalf of all of those suffering from neuromuscular diseases.

I urge all of my colleagues to support it.